

Arizona's A-F Letter Grade Accountability System

ELL Point Criteria – FY 2013

The A-F Letter Grade system includes a composite score and growth score. The composite score measures an LEA's (District or Charter) academic success in the areas of percent passing on AIMS, ELL reclassification rate, dropout rate and graduation rate. The ELL reclassification rate accounts for the percentage of English Language Learners (ELL) reclassified as fluent English proficient on the Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) during the academic year¹.

An LEA can earn three additional points for ELL reclassification above and beyond the possible 100 from the AIMS percent passing if the LEA meets three criteria. The criteria were based on guidance from the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), state law and ELL impact data. First, an LEA must have **at least 10 ELL students** enrolled in an ELL program for one or more days during the current fiscal year. Second, an LEA must **test 95% of all students with an ELL need** on the spring 2013 AZELLA. Third, an LEA must **reclassify 30% or more** full academic year (FAY) ELL students as proficient in English. The criteria apply to all school types (i.e., Alternative, K-2, Small, and Traditional) and LEAs.

Criteria for ELL Points (3 or 0)
1. Only LEAs with 10 or more ELL students are evaluated
2. LEAs must test 95% of students with an ELL need on the Spring 2013 AZELLA
3. 30% or more of FAY ELL students across all grades reclassified as proficient

1) Number of ELL students

LEAs must have at least 10 ELL students (FAY and non-FAY) in order to be evaluated for ELL points. This count helps to ensure that no individual student's test score can be identified in compliance with FERPA. The ELL student belongs to the LEA where the student was last enrolled in an ELL program.

¹ Arizona identifies ELL students by use of the Home Language Survey also known as the Primary Home Language Other Than English (PHLOTE). Once a response on the PHLOTE identifies a student's home language as any other than English, the student is then administered the AZELLA. If the student scores below proficient on the AZELLA and is enrolled in an ELL program for one or more days in the current Fiscal Year, then student is classified as an ELL. ELL students are tested on the AZELLA the first time the student enrolls and completes the PHLOTE and every spring until the student is identified as fluent English proficient and monitored by taking the AZELLA during the spring administration for two years after testing "proficient." For more information on the AZELLA and Arizona's ELL programs, please see <http://www.azed.gov/english-language-learners/>.



An **ELL student** is any student with an ELL need in the current or prior fiscal year and enrolled in an ELL program for one or more days in the current fiscal year.

ELL need is defined as any student with a less than proficient score on AZELLA in the current or prior fiscal year.

ELL program enrollment is defined as any student enrolled in an ELL program (SEI, Bilingual Waiver, ILLP, Withdrawn by parent request in FY 2011, 2012 or 2013) for one or more days in the current fiscal year.²

Students withdrawn due to parent request in fiscal year 2011 or later are included in an LEA's number of ELL students until they score proficient. ELL students withdrawn due to SPED criteria in the current fiscal year only are also included in an LEA's total number of ELL students.

2) 95% Tested on AZELLA

All ELL students must participate in the Spring 2013 AZELLA (see ARS 15-756.05). In order for an LEA to receive ELL points, 95% of all students with an ELL need must be tested on the Spring 2013 AZELLA. LEAs must test all students regardless of ELL program participation (i.e., SEI, Bilingual waiver, ILLP, Withdrawn by parent request, and those students not designated to any of these groups/categories). FEP students are NOT included in the 95% tested criteria.

The Spring 2013 AZELLA testing window is determined by ADE's Assessment Division. For fiscal year 2013, the testing window is January 14 through February 22, 2013. For the 95% tested criteria on AZELLA, LEAs are held accountable for testing only those students enrolled in their school on the first day of the testing window which is January 14, 2013.

Students included in the 95% tested criteria:

- Students with an ELL need in the current or prior Fiscal Year
- ELLAR students re-enrolled in an ELL program in the current or prior Fiscal Year
- Students with an ELL service program withdrawal code of 'Withdrawn by parent request' in FY 2011 or later (until they score proficient)

Please note that of the students included in the 95% tested criteria (see above), students who score proficient on AZELLA prior to the Spring 2013 AZELLA must test again on the Spring 2013 AZELLA.

Students excluded from the 95% tested criteria:

- IFEP
- FEP 1 & 2
- ELLAR students NOT re-enrolled in an ELL program in the current Fiscal Year
- Students with an ELL service program withdrawal code of 'Withdrawn due to SPED criteria' and not re-enrolled in an ELL program

² ELL program enrollment must be entered correctly in SAIS for students to be accurately counted as ELL.

For this calculation, the number of students tested on the Spring 2013 AZELLA is divided by the total number of students **enrolled in the LEA on the first day of the spring testing window.**

95% Tested on AZELLA

$$= \frac{\text{\# of Students Tested on Spring 2013 AZELLA}}{\text{\# of Students with ELL need Enrolled on First Day of Spring AZELLA}}$$

3) Reclassification Rate

LEAs must reclassify at least 30% of their FAY ELL students across all grades to receive ELL points. Students with an ELL program code of 'Withdrawn due to SPED criteria' in the current or prior fiscal year are removed from the calculation of reclassification rate.

A FAY ELL student is one who is enrolled in a school during the first 10 days of the school year and remains continuously enrolled until the first date of the Spring 2013 AZELLA testing window.

A school's reclassification rate is the number of FAY ELL students scoring proficient at any time in the current fiscal year divided by the total number of FAY ELL students.

$$\text{Reclassification Rate} = \frac{\text{\# of FAY ELL Students Testing Proficient on AZELLA}}{\text{Total Number of FAY ELL Students}}$$